

Message Text

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SUBJECT: RELATIONS BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL STAFF
PERSONNEL

REF: PO/74/123(POUCHED)

BEGIN SUMMARY: MISSION RECOMMENDS POSITION OPPOSING NEGOTIATIONS
BETWEEN INTERNATIONAL STAFF AND GOVERNMENTS. END SUMMARY.

1. MISSION HAS RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN
OF THE LIAISON COMMITTEE OF THE NATO STAFF ASSOCIATIONS.

BEGIN QUOTE:

S.E.M. DONALD RUMSFELD

REPRESENTANT PERMANENT DES ETATS-UNIS

LA SPEZIA 13TH SEPT 1974

CL(74/75)1

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STAFF ASSOCIATIONS OF THE VARIOUS
NATO BODIES MET IN A PLENARY SESSION ON THE 13TH OF SEPTEMBER 1974.
HAVING DISCUSSED THE LATEST INFORMATION RECEIVED REGARDING THE
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STATUS OF THE PENSION SCHEME, THE DELEGATES WERE EXTREMELY
CONCERNED ABOUT THE RETREAT FROM THE ORIGINAL GUIDELINES PUT
FORWARD BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL.

IN PARTICULAR, THE PROPOSALS REGARDING TAX ARRANGEMENTS

ARE TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE BECAUSE, AS POINTED OUT BY THE SECRETARIES GENERAL, THE SALARIES TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN CALCULATING THE PENSIONS HAVE BEEN SYSTEMATICALLY FIXED AT A LEVEL WHICH TAKES ACCOUNT OF TAX EXEMPTION. THE REPRESENTATIVES CANNOT THEREFORE ACCEPT THAT PENSIONS, WHICH HAVE ALREADY BEEN IMPLICITLY ADJUSTED FOR TAXATION, BE TAXED UNDER NATIONAL LEGISLATION AS THIS WOULD BE TANTAMOUNT TO DOUBLE TAXATION.

WE WOULD LIKE TO REMIND YOU THAT IT SEEMS VERY LIKELY THAT MANY OF THE STAFF WILL NOT JOIN THE PENSION SCHEME UNDER THESE CONDITIONS. THEY FIND IT VERY HARD TO UNDERSTAND THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO DIRECT CONSULTATION BETWEEN THEIR REPRESENTATIVES AND THE GOVERNMENT ON AN ISSUE OF SUCH MAJOR IMPORTANCE.

WE BELIEVE THE TIME HAS COME WHEN IT IS ABSOLUTELY VITAL FOR THE STAFF AND FOR THE GOVERNMENTS TO ENTER INTO DIRECT CONSULTATION. WE THEREFORE ASK FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH YOU. (SIGNED) ENZO CERNICH

CHAIRMAN
LIAISON COMMITTEE OF THE NATO STAFF
ASSOCIATIONS

END QUOTE.

2. IN REF DOCUMENT THE SYG PROPOSES AT AN EARLY DATE TO DISCUSS WITH PERMREPS A SIMILAR REQUEST STEMMING FROM THE STANDIND COMMITTEE OF STAFF ASSOCIATIONS OF THE COORDINATED ORGANIZATIONS WHICH ASKS THE VARIOUS COUNCILS TO ENSURE, INTER ALIA, THAT THERE IS GENUINE CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE CCG AND THE STAFF REPRESENTATIVES.

3. SUBJECT TO WASHINGTON CONCURRENCE, MISSION INTENDS TO HOLD THE POSITION THAT AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE GOVERNMENTS SHOULD NOT ENGAGE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH STAFF ASSOCIATIONS ON QUESTIONS OF EMOLUMENTS AND BENEFITS FOR MEMBERS OF INTERNATIONAL STAFFS, AS THIS IS, IN OUR VIEW, A MATTER FOR WHICH THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAS RESPONSIBILITY WITHIN THE AUTHORITY GRANTED HIM BY THE NATO REGULATIONS. MISSION HAS DISCUSSED THIS MATTER
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WITH SEVERAL OTHER DELEGATIONS AND ALL THOSE CONTACTED SHARE THIS VIEW; NONE ARE BELIEVED TO OPPOSE IT. MCAULIFFE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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